



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/619,847	07/15/2003	Simon David Julian Hill	CM2496C	7606
27752	7590	08/23/2004	EXAMINER	
THE PROCTER & GAMBLE COMPANY INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DIVISION WINTON HILL TECHNICAL CENTER - BOX 161 6110 CENTER HILL AVENUE CINCINNATI, OH 45224			NGUYEN, TUAN N	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3751	
DATE MAILED: 08/23/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/619,847	HILL, SIMON DAVID JULIAN	
Examiner	Art Unit		
Tuan N. Nguyen	3751		

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 June 2004.
2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-33 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-10 and 26-33 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
7) Claim(s) 11-25 is/are objected to.
8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 7/15/03 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/11/03.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ .
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: ____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Applicant's election with traverse of invention II, which corresponds to claims 11-25 in the reply filed on 6/24/04 is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that "examination of the present application, as a single unrestricted application, would not be unduly burdensome on the Examiner because a thorough art search of all of the identified classes and subclasses could easily be performed in a single application." This is not found persuasive because the Examiner would have to diverge his thinking process for each set of invention. Furthermore, the prior art resulted from a search for elected invention could not necessarily guarantee to be the same as for the other non-elected invention. The differences between the inventions have clearly identify in the office action mailed 6/3/04. Accordingly, claims 1-10 and 26-33 are hereby withdrawn from further consideration.

The requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: "Church fonts" in line 2 of page 5 is grammatically incorrect and "Figure 6" in line 8 of page 10 is incorrect since it does not exist.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Objections

3. Claims 11-25 are objected to because of the following informalities: the bullets "i." in line 2, "ii." in line 3, and "c." in line 6 of claim 11 are out of sequence and confusing since it is unclear as to whether "ii." in line 3 follow from "comprising" of "i." in line 2 or "comprising" in line 1. Appropriate correction is required.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 11-25 are free of prior art.
5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: none of the prior art of record alone or in combination teaches an apparatus for dispensing volatile/soluble substance comprising a device floatable on a liquid; a first chamber having a first passageway enabling the liquid to enter the first chamber as the device is floated on the liquid and an opening on a top portion enabling a volatile substance to be dispensed from the first chamber; and a second chamber associated a second passageway putting the second chamber in fluid flow communication with the liquid as the device is floated on the liquid. This allow the liquid, which the device is floating on, to simultaneously flow into both chambers at the same time to thereby cause the substance in first chamber to be dispensed to the air out of the top opening and the substance in the second chamber to be simultaneously dispensed into the liquid.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Khan, Price et al., Newhard, King, King, Sr., and Grayson, IV et al. disclose other apparatuses for dispensing volatile/soluble substance but lack the feature as indicated above.
7. This application is in condition for allowance except for the following formal matters:

See items 1-3 above.

Prosecution on the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for reply to this action is set to expire **TWO MONTHS** from the mailing date of this letter.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tuan N. Nguyen whose telephone number is 703-306-9046. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (10:00-6:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gregory L. Huson can be reached on 703-308-2580. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Tuan Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3751
8/23/04

TN